

MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING
HISPANIC BAR ASSN. OF N.J.
MARCH 7, 1981
SETON HALL LAW SCHOOL, NEWARK, N.J.

Meeting called to order at 3:30 p.m.

Present: M. Echevarria, H.E. De Soto, H.R. Velazquez, J.M. Fuentes, Z.U. Farber, M.A. Muñoz, I. Perez, M. Rivera, E.A. Faría, R.F. Tous, D. Lamourt, S. Lisboa, E. Bofill, R. Esquivel, Alberto

Reading of the minutes was tabled due to the excused absense of the Secretary.

The Chair made the following announcements of positions available:

1. Availability of lawyer and non-lawyer positions in the Federal Government.
2. Associate being sought by Fuentes, Plant & Velázquez.
3. Assistant Dean for Minority Student Programs at Rutgers Law School, Newark.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Community Outreach Committee

No report since committee didn't meet in interim.

Education Committee

No report due to no meeting in interim.

Publications Committee

The committee presented three proposals of varying costs to the membership ranging from a four page quarterly (\$920.00) to a four page newsletter (\$40.00, per issue). A discussion ensued in which there was expressed a concensus as to the need to restrict costs and therefore circulation for the time being. Also, a discussion of the need to seek out resources of funds to support this. A motion was made and passed unanimously that the publication be limited to a typewritten 4 page xeroxed legal size newsletter limited in circulation to members and potential members only for the time being. Ms. Lamourt reminded everyone that articles are welcomed and must be submitted no later than the 3rd day of April.

Judicial and Government Posts Committee

Held two meetings in the interim. They recommend and are designing needs survey to be circulated to Hispanic attorneys in reference to the quality of judges and the services provided to hispanics in the judicial system. This is being done by three subcommittees and they will try to get professional help in reviewing the end product. The committee also urged all members to attend and make their presence felt in the State

and County Bar Associates. The Chair added that Joseph Rodriguez had requested members interested in appointments to the governing committees of the State Bar to contact him.

NJSBA Planning Conference

The Chair announced the invitation extended by the State Bar for the Association to send a representative to their long range planning conference on April 9th thru 11th in Princeton. Due to interest express by various members in attending, she has written to ask if more than one person can attend and is awaiting a response. All individuals were invited to submit position papers and the following committees were asked to specifically consider issues by unanimous vote:

Community Outreach

- Access of the Public to lawyer and allocation of legal resources.
- Alternatives to litigation
- Lawyer responsibility to the Community
- Future of the organized bar

Judicial and Government Posts

- Justice System
- The future of the judiciary

Education Committee

Professional competency and accountability

Committees and individuals were asked to respond by the 3rd week of March in writing.

Scholarship Fund Committee

Hector E. De Soto, Julio M. Fuentes and Margarita Echevarria met relative to the establishment of guidelines for scholarships and fund raising. One avenue for follow-up was the idea of an awards dinner for fund raising. Fuentes suggested by later letter that an awards committee should be established to decide who should receive the honors at the dinner. Committee suggestions for possible awardees were Hon. John Dios and Joseph Rodriguez.

The Chair asked for volunteer for the awards committee and Hector Velazquez, Zulima Farber, Evelyn Faria and Julio Fuentes volunteered to serve.

New Business

1. A discussion of the need for a group to look at the by-laws for evaluation and recommendations Re: problem areas. Ignacio Perez, Margarita Echevarria and Eduardo Bofill volunteered.

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2. Announcement by Chair of requests by Hispanic Association of Higher Education for resumes of members interested of being considered for appointment as trustees of state colleges. Zulima Farber pointed out that since the Governor makes the appointments, interested persons should contact David Matos, the Special Assistant for Hispanic Affairs.

3. Next meeting - The first Thursday of June (June 4, 1981) at 6:00 p.m. Site will be announced at a later date in order to select a meeting place in Central Jersey.

Respectfully submitted:

Hector E. De Soto